



# CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

23 AUGUST 2022

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## (U) CALIFORNIA

### (U) El Cajon – California Man at US Capitol Insurrection is Convicted

(U) A Southern California man who posted an Instagram photo of himself standing in a ransacked office inside the US Capitol building during the January 2021 riot there was found guilty of obstruction and disorderly conduct charges. A jury found Erik Herrera, 34, guilty of obstructing the proceedings inside the Capitol. He was also found guilty on four additional counts related to his entering the Capitol building and his behavior once he got inside.

SOURCE: 22 August 2022, [Mercury News](#)

### (U) Fresno – Two Arrested After Highway Patrol K-9 Finds 500-Pounds of Methamphetamine

(U) Two men were arrested after a K-9 officer located 500-pounds of methamphetamine in their SUV during a traffic stop. A CHP officer pulled over a 2017 Land Rover for an unspecified reason. After noticing indicators of criminal activity, the officer deployed his canine, which alerted to the odor of narcotics. A search of the SUV turned up cardboard boxes filled with meth. The two suspects face charges of possession of a controlled substance, and selling or transporting methamphetamine.

SOURCE: 22 August 2022, [Associated Press](#)

### (U) San Jose – Former Apple Engineer Accused of Stealing Automotive Trade Secrets Pleads Guilty

(U) Xiaolang Zhang, accused of stealing computer files with trade secrets about Apple's secretive car division, pled guilty in federal court yesterday. Zhang faces as much as ten-years in prison and a \$250,000 fine after pleading guilty to a felony charge of theft of trade secrets. Zhang was accused of downloading internal Apple files about the company's car project, specifically a 25-page document including engineering schematics of a circuit board for an autonomous vehicle.

SOURCE: 22 August 2022, [CNBC](#)

## (U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

### (U) Arizona – 1.5-Million Fentanyl Pills Found in Tractor-Trailer at Mexico Border

(U) Nogales – US Border Patrol agents discovered hundreds-of-pounds of fentanyl and other drugs concealed in a tractor-trailer trying to cross into Arizona from Mexico. Port Director Michael Humphries said in an announcement that the floor of the 18-wheeler trailer and the vehicle with it had 1.57-million fentanyl pills, more than 100-pounds of cocaine, heroin, and cocaine.

SOURCE: 22 August 2022, [CBS 5](#)

## (U) NATIONAL

### (U) Connecticut – Man Gets Prison in Gun Trafficking Case

(U) Farmington – A man was sentenced to one-year in prison for transporting and selling stolen guns he bought in Florida. Dominic Colon Brown, 28, also was fined \$2,200 in US District Court. Federal prosecutors said Colon Brown sold a gun to a convicted felon in 2021 and then drove to Florida where

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he arranged to buy three guns he knew had been stolen. Police confiscated the weapons, as well as more than 100-rounds of ammunition and 60-grams of cocaine during a search of an apartment.

SOURCE: 22 August 2022, [Hartford Courant](#)

### **(U) Florida – Illegal Weapons Smuggling from US to Haiti Surges**

(U) Miami – US authorities in South Florida are stepping up efforts to crackdown on a recent surge in weapons smuggling to Haiti and the Caribbean. An unusual uptick in the number of high-caliber weapons coming out of the US is believed to be connected with spikes in violence driven by transnational criminal organizations. Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) is actively pursuing dozens of open investigations in the region related to smuggling.

SOURCE: 22 August 2022, [ABC News](#)

### **(U) Florida – Man Planned Attack at Florida Political Event**

(U) Tampa – A Texas man whom authorities say has alleged ties to the white nationalist movement was arrested after federal agents were tipped off to a social media post indicating he planned to attack an event for conservative students last month. Federal anti-terrorism investigators allege Alejandro Velasquez, 19, threatened attendees of the Turning Point USA Student Action Summit and made plans to travel to Tampa to carry it out.

SOURCE: 22 August 2022, [FOX 40](#)

### **(U) Michigan – Two Men Guilty of Conspiring to Kidnap Governor Gretchen Whitmer**

(U) Grand Rapids – A jury convicted two men today of conspiring to kidnap Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer in 2020, in a plot prosecutors described as a rallying cry for a US civil war by anti-government extremists. The jury also found Adam Fox and Barry Croft Jr. guilty of conspiring to obtain a weapon of mass destruction, namely a bomb to blow up a bridge to obstruct police if the kidnapping could be pulled off at Whitmer's vacation home. It was the second trial for the pair after a jury in April couldn't reach a unanimous verdict. Two other men were acquitted, and two more pleaded guilty and testified for prosecutors.

SOURCE: 23 August 2022, [Associated Press](#)

### **(U) Ohio – More Than 1,000 Guns Ammo Seized from Home of Brothers Killed in Police Standoff**

(U) Knox County – The Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigations has seized more than 1,000 firearms and 140,000 rounds of ammunition from the property of two brothers who were fatally shot by law enforcement during a nine-hour standoff Saturday. The brothers, identified as Randy Wilhelm, 56, and Bradley Wilhelm, 53, fired guns at law enforcement vehicles and planned to detonate a propane tank rather than face capture before they were fatally shot confronting law enforcement officers.

SOURCE: 22 August 2022, [The Columbus Dispatch](#)

### **(U) West Virginia – Man Arrested for Planting Fake Bombs in Federal Courthouse and Church**

(U) Bluefield – Police have arrested a man who they believe was responsible for a triple bomb threat that closed down a church and a federal courthouse yesterday. The chief of police reported that his officers had arrested James Dean Fowler, 50, on suspicion of planting the hoax devices. Multiple buildings were evacuated that morning after suspicious devices were found at the federal courthouse and a church. Police performed a controlled detonation on one device and reported that another was suspected to be waiting within the suspect's home.

SOURCE: 22 August 2022, [Independent](#)

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### (U) INTERNATIONAL

#### **(U) Germany – Woman Held After Assault With Sword-Like Object**

(U) Weiden – A woman was arrested in southern Germany after allegedly injuring three people with what was described as a sword-like object. Police said in a statement that passers-by were able to hold the suspect, a 65-year-old woman from a neighboring area, until she was detained by officers sent to the scene. Two of the victims, men aged 46 and 61, were taken to a hospital and one of them had been released by mid-afternoon. No one had life-threatening injuries, police said. They didn't give further details on the weapon or of a possible motive.

SOURCE: 23 August 2022, [Associated Press](#)

#### **(U) Iraq – Iraqi Counterterrorism Unit Kills Six Prominent ISIS Leaders**

(U) Erbil – Iraq's Counterterrorism Service (CTS) announced the killing of six prominent the Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) leaders in their latest operation against the group's remnants in the country. The inspection and confrontation operation resulted in the killing of the six, including a prominent leader, Abu Maryam al-Qahtani. CTS teams found a set of documents during their operations that revealed the financing of terrorist groups and the methods of communication currently used.

SOURCE: 22 August 2022, [Rudaw](#)

#### **(U) Pakistan – Police File Terrorism Charges Against Former Prime Minister**

(U) Islamabad – Pakistani police have filed terrorism charges against former Prime Minister Imran Khan, escalating political tensions in the country as the ousted premier holds mass rallies seeking to return to office. The charges followed a speech Khan gave in Islamabad on Saturday in which he vowed to sue police officers and a female judge, and alleged that a close aide had been tortured after his arrest. Khan himself has not publicly spoken about the latest charges against him.

SOURCE: 22 August 2022, [Associated Press](#)

### **(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.**

**(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL [STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV](mailto:STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV), OR CALL 916-636-2900.**

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